

The logo for SHAC, featuring the letters 'SHAC' in a bold, purple, sans-serif font. The letter 'A' is stylized with a house shape inside it. The logo is set against a black square background.

# SHAC ACTION

## SHAC's Regular Newsletter

**20th April 2024**

- Mould Advice & Resource - City Hall Camp Out -
- SHAC@Riverside - Parliamentary Petition - Research Interviewees -



[Visit Page](#)

### **New Web Page:**

### **Mould - Cleaning & Enforcement**

Students at the University of Manchester have worked with SHAC to develop a leaflet for cleaning mould safely using basic household products. We have now posted their leaflet on our website to read online or download and print off.

One of our expert members has also helped set out how to get enforcement from the council if the landlord fails to address the damp and mould through the normal notification and complaints procedures. See more [here](#).

### **City Hall Camp Out**

Housing campaigners from across London are gathering to demand that all mayoral candidates commit to funding and delivering the social housing we all need. They are hosting a 'camp out' outside City Hall. All welcome.

The event has been triggered by high rents, empty homes and poor quality housing, the mayor's support for estate demolition and the building of luxury skyscrapers, none of which solve London's homelessness and housing crisis.

# HOUSING RIGHTS CAMP-OUT



## Overnight Protest Outside City Hall

Kamal Chunchie Way, E16 1ZE [Royal Victoria DLR / Custom House Elizabeth Line]

Housing Campaigners from across the capital are gathering to demand that all Mayoral candidates commit to funding and delivering the social housing we need, not more polluting and unaffordable luxury flats for developer profit.

FILL EMPTY HOMES / REFURBISH DON'T DEMOLISH / HOUSING AS A RIGHT  
REAL SOCIAL HOUSING NOT FAKE 'AFFORDABLE' OR LUXURY DEVELOPMENTS

### SUNDAY 28TH APRIL

5PM: ARRIVE & SET-UP (BRING A TENT)  
7PM: PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY ON HOUSING  
OVERNIGHT: CAMPING FOR THOSE WILLING

### MONDAY 29TH APRIL

EARLY MORNING: OUTREACH TO WORKERS  
9AM-10AM: RALLY AND SPEECHES

ALL SPARE TENTS WILL BE DONATED  
TO CHARITY



[linktr.ee/housingrebellion](https://linktr.ee/housingrebellion)

**Meet:** Outside City Hall, Kamal Chunchie Way, [E16 1ZE](#)

**When:** 28th - 29th April, 5pm

Join for a few hours or stay over. Bring your own tent, or use one provided. At the end of the event, spare tents will be donated to homelessness charities.

Click image to expand and download.

Petition

## Create a new body to regulate service charges for residential property

We want the Government to create a new body that is empowered to monitor and regulate private, council, and housing association service charges, and impose meaningful penalties for unfair or unreasonable service charges.

[More details](#)

[Sign this petition](#)

**12,542** signatures

[Sign the petition](#)

## Service Charges Parliamentary Petition

Last week we launched a Parliamentary petition to create a new body to regulate service charges, and to provide free legal representation to those disputing charges. It launched just after 11 am on Wednesday 10th April.

It has now topped over 12,500 signatures.

Because we exceeded 10,000 signatures, Michael Gove has to respond in writing. However, at 100,000 signatures the issue has to be debated in Parliament. This offers a big opportunity to expose this form of financial abuse.

These thresholds might seem high, but two years ago we launched a petition to get the UK Housing Awards cancelled and got 54,000 signatures - significantly above the 10K threshold, and more than half the number we would need for a debate

**Sign! Share! Chase!**

**It can be done.** Please **sign**, **share** with neighbours, colleagues, friends and family. Then **chase** to check that the people you shared with have signed too!

[Add to Calendar](#)

## SHAC@Riverside (and One Housing) Meeting at 6.30pm on Thurs 25th April

Our next **SHAC@Riverside** (and **One Housing Group**) branch meeting takes place this week. All tenants and residents of this housing association are welcome to join.

Lead organiser John O'Rourke will be hosting the meeting.

- 6.30pm on Thursday 25th April
- [Zoom link](#) ~ ID: 821 9306 6790 ~ Passcode: 642616



## University of Derby Housing Research

Alan Green is researching for a PhD on how the financialisation of the affordable housing sector affects those in need of low cost housing.

Alan aims to gather first-hand views from households living in, and requiring, low cost housing in England on how their experiences have changed over the past 10 to 20 years.

Interviews will take between 30 and 60 minutes, and be in person or virtual.

Research is focussed on four geographical areas: Liverpool, Cornwall, and the London boroughs of Haringey and Waltham Forest.

If you are eligible and willing to speak to Alan, please contact him via [a.green26@unimail.derby.ac.uk](mailto:a.green26@unimail.derby.ac.uk).

All research will be confidential and consent will be requested from interviewees at the time of each interview.

## Protest Social Housing Finance Conference

The financial model for social housing and housing generally

**PROTEST  
THE  
SOCIAL  
HOUSING  
FINANCE  
CONFERENCE  
2024!**



**9AM  
WEDNESDAY  
8TH MAY**

**155 BISHOPSGATE,  
LONDON EC2M 3TQ**



lies at the root of the problems reported daily to SHAC. The commercialisation of housing as an asset to generate profit pervades, and is the priority for those with investment portfolios.

In May, investors and other interested parties gather at the **Social Housing Finance Conference** to discuss how they can extract even more money from the sector - and our homes.

**See all events**

We will be holding a picket at the event from 9am to 2pm on Wednesday 8th May, 155 Bishopsgate, London [EC2M 3TQ](#). Please join us.



**Join  
Nextdoor**

## Nextdoor Network

Posting a message on the Nextdoor app is one great way to encourage tenants and residents from your landlord (or other housing associations) to join SHAC and build critical strength.

Nextdoor is a Facebook-style social networking site that links people in the same locality. You can find out more and get set up [here](#).

Some of our members have been very successful in using it to raise awareness of SHAC's work, in one case getting 1,800 views for a single post, and recruiting neighbours who are also residents of her landlord.

## Missed an Update?

Previous issues of SHAC Action can be downloaded [here](#).

## WhatsApp Campaign Groups

SHAC members increasingly use WhatsApp to communicate between meetings, provide peer support, and plan action. Click on the relevant links below if you would like to join in.

## SHAC Campaigns - all welcome

Clarion | Hyde | MTVHA | Notting Hill Genesis | Riverside / One Housing Group | L&Q | Southern | Peabody | Guinness / SBHA | Home Group | Wandle | Councils

### Take Action

Sign the Unfair & Uncapped Pledge | Make a Donation | Join an Event

### Follow SHAC



[SHAC YouTube](#)

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